Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 01130 091052Z

15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-04 CU-02 /034 W

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R 090920Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9835 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

LIMITED OFFICIFW USE KHARTOUM 1130

ADDIS FOR CALDWELL; DEPT PASS AID/W, LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, SU, US SUBJECT: AALC VISIT

REF: STATE 058010

- 1. AFRO AMERICAN LABOR CENTER (AALC) OFFICIALS JERRY FUNK AND RONALD CICCONE VISITED SUDAN APRIL 29-MAY 4 AT INVITATION OF SUDAN WORKERS TRADE UNION FEDERATION (SWTUF). PURPOSE WAS TO STRENG-THEN BILATERAL TIES AND TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC FORMS OF AALC ASSISTANCE TO SWTUF. TEAM WAS WARMLY RECEIVED; PROGRAM WAS EXTENSIVE, INCLUDING TRIP TO GEZIRA; CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY WAS GIVEN VISIT (INCLUDING ACKNOWLEDGMENTS DELEGATION'S PRESENCE BY TWO SPEAKERS AT SWTUF MAY DAY CELEBRATION); AND APPOINTMENTS INCLUDED SUCH LUMINARIES AS SSU DEPUTY SEC GEN ABUL GASSIM MOHAMMED IBRAHIMUAND PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RASHID AL-TAHIR. SWTUF WAS NOT MODEST IN REQUESTS FOR AID, AND AALC TEAM, ALTHOUGH POSITIVELY INCLINED TOWARD SUDAN, WAS FORCED TO COOL HOST'S ARDOR BY EXPLAINING FISCAL AND OTHER BARRIERS TO BIG PROGRAM. AALC DID INDICATE THAT, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF AALC BOARD, IT WOULD PROCEED BY MID-SUMMER WITH DONATION OF MAXIMUM \$40,000 IN VEHICLES AND MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS.
- 2. COMMENT: IN ADDITION OBVIOUS INTEREST IN PARLAYING VISIT INTO MAJOR AALC FINANCIAL HELP, GOS ATTENTION FAR BEYOND INTRINSIC VALUE OF VISIT SUGGESTS A DESIRE TO DEMONSTRATEH TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMUNIST COUNTRIES (AND SUDANESE DISSIDENTS) SUDANESE IN-

DEPENDENCE IN TRADE UNION MATTERS, AS WELL AS TO REMIND U.S.
OF SUDANESE EAGERNESS FOR COOPERATION. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED TO AALC TEAM EARLY IN VISIT SENSITIVE POLICY ISSUES
IN US-SUDANESE RELATIONS, AND WE HAVE REASON BELIEVE VISITORS
HANDLED SITUATION WELL. AALC COMMENTS HAVE CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S
IMPRESSION THAT SWTUF IS HIGHLY POLITICIZED BODY UNDER FIRM
CONTROL OF GOS BUT THAT IT MAY NONETHELESS PLAY USEFUL ROLE
IN IMPROVING LABOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY.
AALC REPS INDICATED AMBASSADOR'S FORMAL CONCURRENCE TO MODEST PROGRAM
REFERRED TO IN PARA I WOULD BE REQUESTED AFTER AALC BOARD
ACTION.
BREWER

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Message Attributes

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